JWB/rem

0445-0306P

REMARKS

The specification has been amended to provide a cross-reference to the previously filed International Application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By John W. Bailey, #32,881

P.O. Box 747

Falls Church, VA 22040-0747

(7(2)) 205-8000

(Rev. 02/12/01)